

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 INR-07

NSCE-00 PRS-01 /053 W

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R 131635Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9432

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FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTE DECISION

REF: STATE 181641

1. ON AUGUST 9, A DELEGATION OF EMPLOYEES OF PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS IN ROME CALLED ON ME TO PRESENT A LETTER PROTESTING THE RECENT CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTES. THE LETTER ASKS ME TO TRANSMIT TO YOU THE VIEWS OF PAN AM EMPLOYEES IN ITALY THAT THE CAB DECISION "WOULD IRREPARABLY DAMAGE" PAN AM AND ALL ITS EMPLOYEES.

2. AS I KNOW YOU ARE NOW WEIGHING THE PROS AND CONS OF THE CAB RECOMMENDATION AND AS I BELIEVE YOU SHOULD HAVE A FULL RANGE OF VIEWS AND TESTIMONY IN MAKING YOUR FINAL JUDGMENT, I AM TRANSMITTING TO YOU THE CONCERNS OF THE PAN AM EMPLOYEES. THE TEXT OF THEIR LETTER FOLLOWS BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM FOR YOUR STAFF. ALTHOUGH THE RECOMMENDATION DOES NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT ITALY AND ALTHOUGH I CANNOT BE AWARE OF ALL THE FACTORS INVOLVED, I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY OWN VIEW, BASED, AS YOU KNOW, ON MY EARLIER EXPERIENCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE FIELD OF AVIATION. I BELIEVE THAT THE GRANTING OF NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTES TO

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TWO ADDITIONAL U.S. AIRLINES WILL INCREASE THE ALREADY

HEAVY COMPETITION OVER THE NORTH ATLANTIC, FURTHER REDUCING LOAD FACTORS AND ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL SITUATION OF U.S. AIRLINES ALREADY FLYING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE. I WISH YOU SUCCESS IN WHAT I KNOW IS A DIFFICULT DECISION. VOLPE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR. MACK, S/S-O.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR ROUTE APPLICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME13248
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760313-0586
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760855/aaaabvuc.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 181641
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTE DECISION
TAGS: EAIR, IT, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006